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REFERENCE TO: MISSION 1107

AIRFIELD CONSTRUCTION
IRAQ

1. SIGNIFICANCE: OBSERVATION OF TWO ADDITIONAL NEW AIRFIELDS IN IRAQ.
2. LOCATION: AL KUT AIRFIELD--3 NM WEST OF AL KUT AND 85 NM SE OF BAGHDAD AT 32-29N 045-46E. AN NASIRIYAH AIRFIELD--10 NM SW OF AN NASIRIYAH AND 92 NM WNW OF AL BASRAH, AT 30-56N 046-05E.
3. REMARKS: PRIOR TO THIS MISSION, THE ONLY NEW AIRFIELDS TO BE IDENTIFIED IN IRAQ SINCE THE 1967 ARAB-ISRAELI WAR WERE THREE SATELLITE AIRFIELDS AND A HIGHWAY AIRSTRIp THAT SERVE AS DISPERSAL FIELDS FOR IRAQ'S WESTERNMOST AIRBASE, H-3. IN ADDITION TO THESE NEW AIRFIELDS, THIS MISSION PROVIDED THE FIRST IDENTIFICATION OF A NEW AIRFIELD AT TIKRIT, LOCATED 95 NM NNW OF BAGHDAD, AND 21 AIRSTRIps, 18 OF WHICH ARE WITHIN 100 NM OF BAGHDAD. THIS ACTIVITY PROBABLY REFLECTS IRAQ'S DESIRE TO ALLOW GREATER DISPERSAL OF ITS AIRCRAFT AND TO REDUCE THEIR VULNERABILITY TO PREEMPTIVE ATTACKS, PARTICULARLY IN VIEW OF THE FUTURE DELIVERY

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OF THE F-4 PHANTOM TO ISRAEL.

A MAP SUMMARIZING MILITARY AIRFIELD CONSTRUCTION

IN IRAQ SINCE THE JUN 67 WAR IS ATTACHED

4. COLLATERAL:

COLLATERAL SOURCES OF NOV AND DEC 68 REPORTED

THAT THE IRAQI DEFENSE MINISTRY HAD AWARDED CON-

TRACTS FOR NEW MILITARY AIRFIELD CONSTRUCTION. AS

PART OF THIS PROGRAM, NEW MILITARY AIRFIELDS WERE

TO BE CONSTRUCTED AT AL KUT AND AN NASIRIYAH.

IN THE TWO YEARS FOLLOWING THE JUN 67 ARAB-ISRAELI

WAR, IRAQ HAS DOUBLED THE NUMBER OF FIGHTER AIRCRAFT

IN ITS INVENTORY. SIGNIFICANT DELIVERIES FROM THE

SOVIET UNION DURING THIS PERIOD HAVE BEEN THE IN-

TRODUCTION OF THE SU-7 (FITTER) AND THE DOUBLING

OF THE NUMBER OF MIG-21 (FISHBED) THAT EXISTED PRIOR

TO THE WAR. THERE HAVE BEEN NO KNOWN CHANGES IN THE

BOMBER INVENTORY SINCE THE WAR.

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Page 3IRAQI FIGHTER INVENTORY

<u>SUPERSONIC</u>	<u>PRE-WAR</u>	<u>WAR LOSS</u>	<u>CURRENT ESTIMATE</u>
MIG-21	33	13	71
SU-7	0	0	43
<u>SUBSONIC</u>			
MIG-15/17	13	0	34
HAWKER HUNTER	<u>38</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>35</u>
TOTAL	84	19	183

BOMBER INVENTORY

	<u>PRE-WAR</u>	<u>WAR LOSS</u>	<u>CURRENT ESTIMATE</u>
TU-16	10	1	9
IL-28	12	0	12

5. FIRST IDENTIFICATION: THIS MISSION.6. NEGATION DATE:7. DIMENSIONS/
SPECIFICATIONS:AL KUT AIRFIELD --10,200 X 150-FOOT WNW/ESE
RUNWAY UNDER CONSTRUCTION.

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AN NASIRIYAH AIRFIELD--APPROXIMATELY 11,275 X 250-
FOOT NW/SE RUNWAY UNDER CONSTRUCTION.

8. MISSION READOUT: AL KUT AIRFIELD--A PARALLEL TAXIWAY, TWO END-
CONNECTING, AND TWO CROSSOVER LINKS ARE UNDER CONSTRUCTION.

OB--NONE.

AN NASIRIYAH AIRFIELD--A PARALLEL TAXIWAY, TWO END-CONNECTING LINKS, THREE
CROSSOVER LINKS, AND FOUR SUPPORT BUILDINGS OR CONSTRUCTION SHEDS ARE OBSERVED.

OB--NONE.

ENLARGEMENT FACTOR: 30X

IEG/WGD

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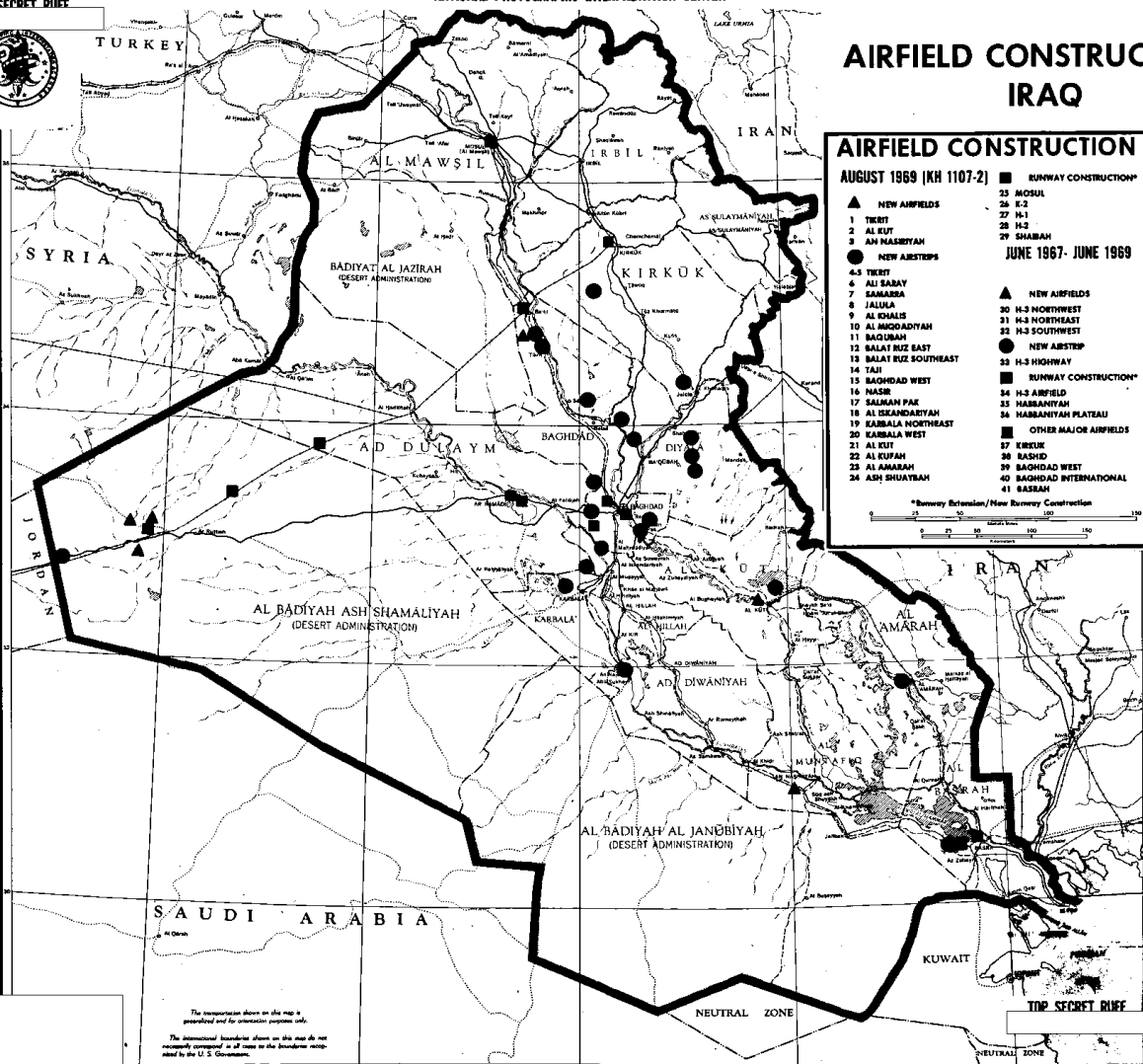
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